

July 19, 2010

Dear Temple Israel Family,

President Nancy Robinson and I have been amazed by the positive attitude of members Myrna and Joe Levy after suffering one of the most devastating situations last week, an electrical fire which consumed the Levy's entire house. We truly admire the way the Levys have put this loss into perspective and we can certainly all learn from their example.

Many Temple members have asked how we might reach out to them beyond our prayers and caring concern. The Levys certainly do not want any gifts and have expressed to me how grateful they are, and how there are members far worse off than they. Temple has helped - and will continue to help - the dozens of families we've been quietly assisting during these uncertain and challenging times.

In response to the many students of Joe who have written me personally regarding replacement of his Jewish library, which burned to the ground, we are coordinating a small fund to reconstruct Joe and Myrna's Jewish library. Joe has given so much of his time and knowledge to our adult education program, we are intent on replacing as many of his beloved books as possible.

I have asked Joe for a list of his most cherished Jewish books. If you wish to make a small contribution toward that replacement effort, please send a check* to my attention made out to Temple Israel.

More importantly, please keep the Levys and other families in our congregation going through rough times in your daily prayers.

Best to all,

Micah

Rabbi Micah D. Greenstein

*Editor's note:

You may choose to make a donation online. Log in to your Temple account that is accessible via the login button found on the "Make a Donation" Quick Link at www.timemphis.org. Once you've logged in and clicked Make a Donation, select "**Rabbi Greenstein's Discretionary Fund.**" For **Donation Reason**, select "**In Appreciation of**" and for **Occasion**, type "**Levy Library.**" If you would like help with this, please call Sylvia Appleton at Temple at 761-3130.